

CHEAP TRAVEL

An Agreeable Way of Going Across the Continent.

Tourist Parties That Make the Trip in a Speedy and Comfortable Manner at But Little Expense.

It is now possible to cross the continent to San Francisco and make friends on the way and have as jolly a time as when you cross the Atlantic on a fast liner in the same number of days, says the New York Sun. That did not used to be so. The old way was to take a numbered seat in a sleeping car and go through with the chance that no one but the conductor and the train newsboys would ever speak to you. The new way is by means of what are called tourists' excursions. They are run at second-class rates, but on the fastest time and with special cars. The conductors will take a first-class passenger if such a one should offer himself. There are at least two of these companies running personally conducted excursions over opposition lines and both advertise very low rates and quick time. The cars are plenty good enough for anybody, but are not so ornate as the regular palace cars. In them the people start at New York or Boston and go through without change, eating their meals in dining-cars out as far as Council Bluffs if they want to and stopping at dining stations along the rest of each route. A great many who push to the farthest extreme that economy which is the distinctive characteristic of such excursions carry their own fare with them in baskets and either buy nothing but tea and coffee or even make that for themselves on the road.

The passengers in the first-class coaches on the same trains are quickly made aware of the fact that their trains carry these tourist parties, for they hear the laughter and singing and rousing of the tourists, who by the end of the second day out are all acquainted with one another and bent on having a jolly and fraternal time. They share their delicacies, their paper-covered novels and their hopes and fears with one another, stream out of cars in great parties when there is a long stop, to gather flowers or to "take in a new town," and in all ways fraternize as though they had all known each other for years.

The circular of one of these excursion companies announces that it "guards its patrons against the presence of the immigrant and the untidy" and against the intrusion of the way passenger. Everything that will contribute to the general pleasure is welcomed, but nothing offensive is tolerated. Some of the cars have smoking-rooms, but if there is one without it the men must go forward to the regular train smoker to enjoy their pipes and cigars. A special conductor goes with each party and saves the tourists the annoyance of being awakened to show their tickets during each night. The tourist cars look like regular sleepers in the way, being built on the same plan, but not finished with the same elegance. Unlike the immigrant sleepers, they are equipped with carpets, curtains, mattresses, blankets, sheets, pillows, pillow cases, towels, combs, brushes, etc., requiring nothing of the kind to be furnished by the passenger. Each car has a stove for the making of tea and coffee, and each seat can be fitted with an adjustable table. A uniformed colored-porter accompanies each car to make up berths, keep the car clean and to make himself useful.

Changing Chirography.

The changes in fashionable handwriting during the past ten years have been marked. Young girls of to-day write in large and usually firm characters, while a surprising number of young men, not trained to clerkship and struggling between several recognized standards of a good masculine handwriting, produce letters of a singularly childish style of penmanship. But leaving out these conditions of youth and transition with their more or less fascinating suggestions of equal change in the intellectual fashions of young men and maidens, there is an inexhaustible interest in the study of mature handwriting, from the point of view of the subtle clairvoyant interviewer of other people's minds and methods. For example, most literary men nowadays write a small hand. The phrase "literary men" is very sweeping in this connection and is by no means limited to the producers of pure literature in this country. In that case there would be next to nothing to say, especially if the literature produced was restricted to that genuinely finished with style. Literary men in this sense means also all men who have the power and also a most surprising knack in returning to others of the craft their own ambitious productions.

Short Epitaphs.

In Worcester, England, is a stone erected over the grave of a departed auctioneer of that city on which "Gone" is inscribed. In a Sussex graveyard, in addition to the initials of the deceased and the date of death, a stone has inscribed, in large letters the words: "He Was." Two of the strangest as well as the shortest epitaphs are: "Asleep (as usual)," on the tombstone of a large individual by one who knew him well, and "Left Till Called For" is carved on a gravestone in Cane Hill cemetery, Belfast. A photographer has this inscription over his grave: "Here I Lie, Taken from Life." On the tomb of Charles the Great, first emperor of Germany, are two words only: "Carra's Mago."

Severity of Antarctic Regions.

It is a remarkable fact that the climate of the southern polar region is much more severe than that of corresponding regions to the north. It is well known that a race of human beings live within the arctic circle with some degree of comfort, but at a corresponding degree of latitude at the south all is one dreary waste, wholly uninhabitable.

The new carpet for the house of representatives will be of a dark-green design, with a crimson figure, conventional in its character, relieved by a cream-colored star.

GEORGE STEPHEN, Regent's Quay, Aberdeen, Scotland, sent a very pretty little Sheltie for President Cleveland. The pony is just thirty-eight inches in height and is of "beautiful build."



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Athena, Oregon.



J. E. FORD, Evangelist.
of Des Moines, Iowa, writes under date of March 21, 1893:
S. B. MED. MFG. Co.,
Dufur, Oregon.
Gentlemen:
On arriving home last week, I found all well and anxiously awaiting. Our little girl, eight and one-half years old, who had wasted away to 39 pounds, is now well, strong and vigorous, and well fleshed up. S. B. Cough Cure has done its work well. Both of the children like it. Your S. B. Cough Cure has cured and kept away all hoarseness from me. So give it to every one, with greetings for all. Wishing you prosperity, we are
Yours, Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Ford.
If you wish to feel fresh and cheerful, and ready for the Spring's work, cleanse your system with the Headache and Liver Cure, by taking two or three doses each week.
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is what you need. Its production is not an accident, but the result of scientific research. Knowledge of the structure of the hair and scalp led to the discovery of how to treat them. "Skookum" is a natural salt in mineral form. It is not a dye, but a delightfully cooling and refreshing tonic. By stimulating the follicles, it stops falling hair, cures dandruff, and grows hair on bald heads.
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